



University of  
Pittsburgh

# Algorithms and Data Structures 2

## CS 1501



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(Slides are adapted from Dr. Ramirez's and Dr. Farnan's CS1501 slides.)

# Announcements

- Lab 0 is due this Friday
  - Not graded and no deliverables
- Recitations start next week
- Homework 1 will be posted this Friday on GradeScope
- Available on Canvas
  - JDB Example
  - Video on debugging using VS Code
  - Link to Draft slides and handouts repository

# Recall from previous lecture

A technique for modeling runtime of algorithms

- $\sum_{all\ statements} Cost\ of\ statement * frequency\ of\ statement$
- Split the algorithm into blocks such that
  - the code statements in each block have the same frequency
- $\sum_{all\ blocks} Cost\ of\ block * frequency\ of\ block$

# Example 1

```
public int sum(int[] a) {  
    int sum = 0;  
    for (int i = 0; i < a.length; i++) {  
        sum += a[i];  
    }  
    return sum;  
}
```

- How much time does that statement take?
- Depends on machine used, other programs running, etc.
- Let's assume it is a constant  $C_0$

# Example 1

```
public int sum(int[] a) {  
    int sum = 0;  
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {  
        Cost = C0  
    }  
}
```

- Cost =  $C_0$
- How many times does that statement execute in one run of the algorithm?
- Just once!

# Example 1

```
public int sum(int[] a) {  
    int sum = 0;  
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {  
        Cost = C0  
        frequency = 1  
    }  
}
```

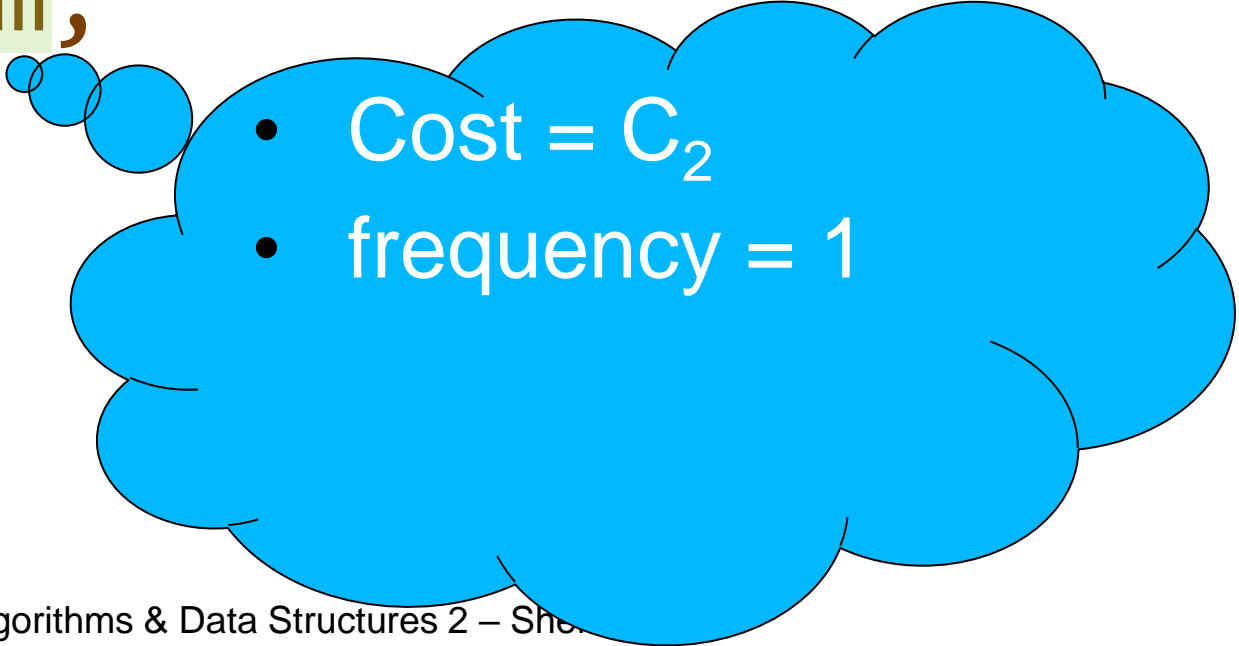
# Example 1

```
public int sum(int[] a) {  
    int sum = 0;  
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {  
        sum = sum + a[i];  
    }  
    return sum;  
}
```

- Cost =  $C_1$
- frequency = 1

# Example 1

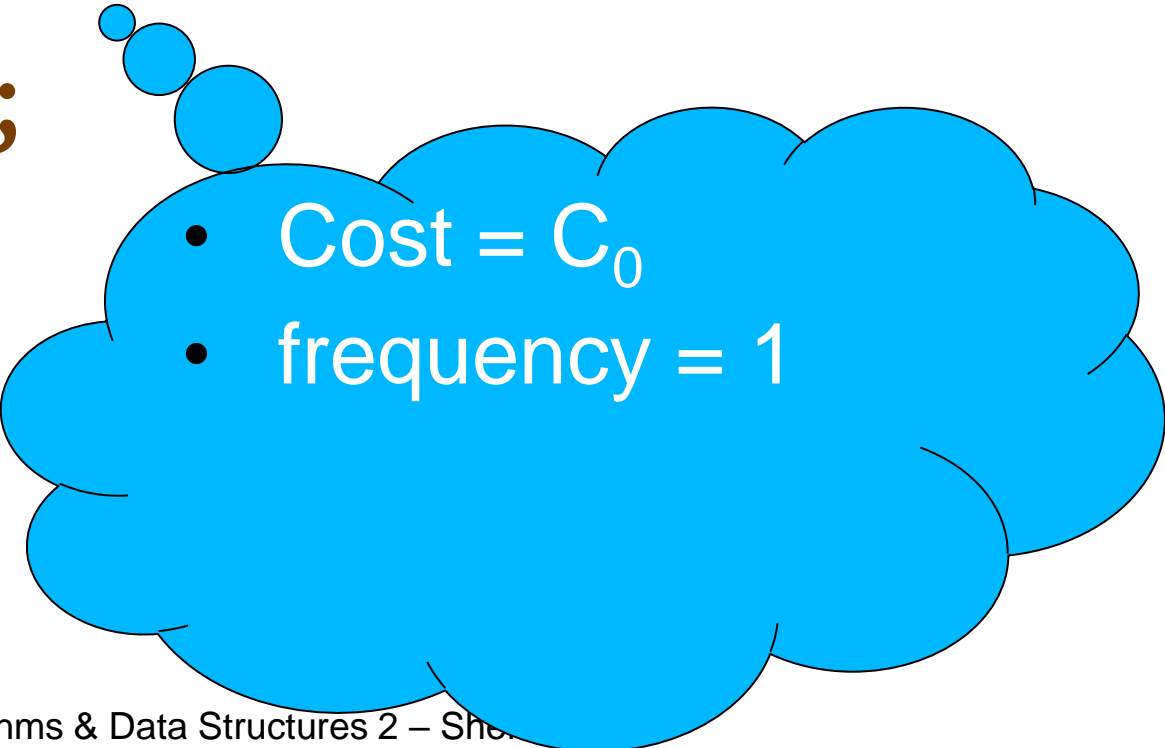
```
public int sum(int[] a) {  
    int sum = 0;  
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {  
        sum = sum + a[i];  
    }  
    return sum;  
}
```

- 
- Cost =  $C_2$
  - frequency = 1



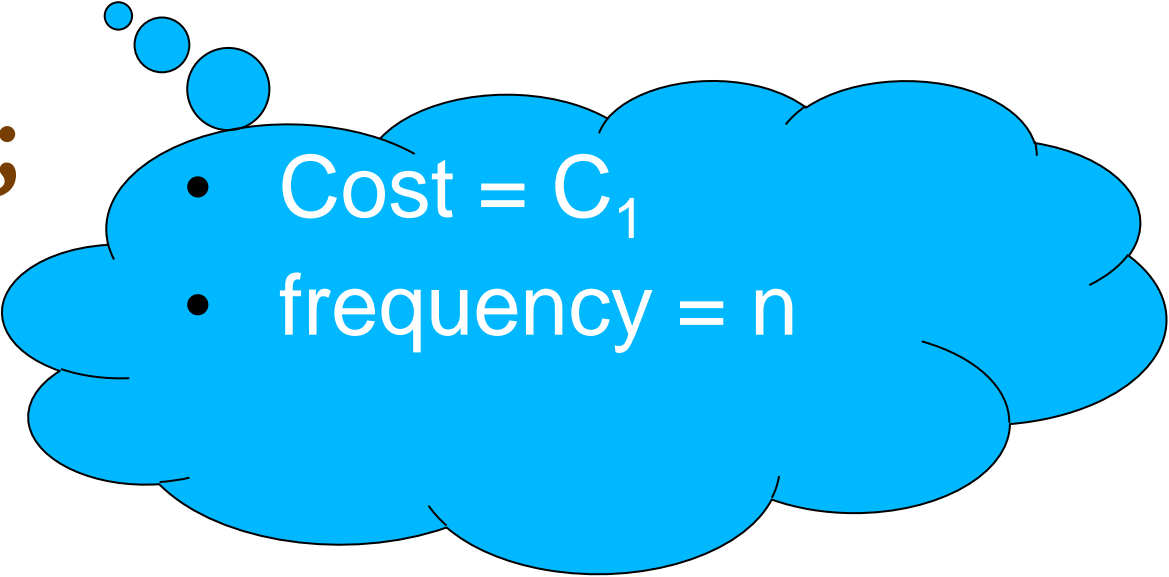
# Example 1

```
public int sum(int[] a) {  
    int sum = 0;  
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {  
        sum = sum + a[i];  
    }  
    return sum;  
}
```

- 
- Cost =  $C_0$
  - frequency = 1

# Example 1

```
public int sum(int[] a) {  
    int sum = 0;  
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {  
        sum = sum + a[i];  
    }  
    return sum;  
}
```

- 
- Cost =  $C_1$
  - frequency =  $n$

# Example 1

```
public int sum(int[] a) {  
    int sum = 0;  
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {  
        sum = sum + a[i];  
    }  
    return sum;  
}
```

- Cost =  $C_2$
- frequency =  $n+1$

# Algorithm Analysis Example 1

for ( $\overset{1}{i=0}$ ;  $\overset{n+1}{i < n}$ ;  $\overset{n}{i++}$ )  
     $a[i] = i;$

# What is the running time?

- $\sum_{all\ blocks} Cost\ of\ block * frequency\ of\ block$
- $= C_0 * 1 + C_1 * n + C_2 * (n+1)$

```
public int sum(int[] a) {  
    int sum = 0;  
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {  
        sum = sum + a[i];  
    }  
    return sum;  
}
```

# Algorithm Analysis Example 2

```
public int sum(int[] a, int x) {  
    int sum = 0;  
    if(x > 0){  
        for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {  
            sum = sum + a[i];  
        }  
    }  
    return sum;  
}
```

# Algorithm Analysis Example 2

1

```
if( x > 0 ) {  
    for( i = 0; i < n; i++ )  
        a[i] = i;  
}
```

0 or 1

0 or n

2

# Algorithm Analysis Example 3

1

for ( $i = n$ ;  $i \geq 1$ ;  $i = i/2$ )  
     $a[i] = i$ ;  $\log n$



# What is the runtime of ThreeSum?

```
public static int count(int[] a) {  
    int n = a.length;  
    int cnt = 0;  
    for (int i = 0; i < n; i++) {  
        for (int j = i+1; j < n; j++) {  
            for (int k = j+1; k < n; k++) {  
                if (a[i] + a[j] + a[k] == 0) {  
                    cnt++;  
                }  
            }  
        }  
    }  
}
```

frequency:  $f_0 = 1$   
cost:  $t_0$

freq:  $f_1 = n$   
cost:  $t_1$

$f_4 = x$  (the number of triples that sum to 0 in the input array)

$$0 \leq x \leq C(n, 3)$$

cost:  $t_4$

$$\frac{n}{3}$$

# What is the runtime of ThreeSum?

frequency:  $f_0 = 1$   
cost:  $t_0$

freq:  $f_1 = n$   
cost:  $t_1$

$$\begin{aligned} f_2 &= (n-1) + (n-2) + (n-3) + \dots + 1 \\ &= \frac{n-1}{2} (n-1+1) = \frac{n^2}{2} - \frac{n}{2} \\ \text{cost} &= t_2 \end{aligned}$$

$f_4 = x$  (the number of triples that sum to 0 in the input array)  
 $0 \leq x \leq C(n, 3)$   
cost:  $t_4$

$$\begin{aligned} f_3 &= C(n, 3) = n_{C_3} = \frac{n!}{(n-3)!3!} \\ &= \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)(n-3)!}{(n-3)!6} = \frac{n(n-1)(n-2)}{6} = \frac{n^3}{6} - \frac{n^2}{2} + \frac{n}{3} \\ \text{cost: } &t_3 \end{aligned}$$

$$\text{Grand total} = \sum_{i=0}^4 f_i * t_i$$

$$= \frac{t_3}{6} n^3 + \left( \frac{t_2}{2} - \frac{t_3}{2} \right) n^2 + \left( \frac{t_3}{3} - \frac{t_2}{2} + t_1 \right) n + t_0 + t_4 x$$

# What is the runtime of ThreeSum?

$$\frac{t_3}{6}n^3 + \left(\frac{t_2}{2} - \frac{t_3}{2}\right)n^2 + \left(\frac{t_3}{3} - \frac{t_2}{2} + t_1\right)n + t_0 + t_4x$$

- Remember that  $0 \leq x \leq C(n, 3)$
- If  $x = 0 \rightarrow$  best-case runtime

$$\frac{t_3}{6}n^3 + \left(\frac{t_2}{2} - \frac{t_3}{2}\right)n^2 + \left(\frac{t_3}{3} - \frac{t_2}{2} + t_1\right)n + t_0$$

- If  $x = C(n, 3) \rightarrow$  worst-case runtime

$$\frac{t_3}{6}n^3 + \left(\frac{t_2}{2} - \frac{t_3}{2}\right)n^2 + \left(\frac{t_3}{3} - \frac{t_2}{2} + t_1\right)n + t_0 + t_4\left(\frac{n^3}{6} - \frac{n^2}{2} + \frac{n}{3}\right)$$

# Algorithm Analysis

- You see that this analysis can get ugly at times
- Do we really need to consider all these terms and constants?
  - The answer is No!

# Enter Asymptotic Analysis

## Algorithm Analysis

- Determine *resource usage* as a function of *input size*
  - e.g.,  $n$ , in 3-sum, the length of the array size, is the input size
  - We already did that for ThreeSum
- Measure ***asymptotic*** performance
  - Performance as input size increases to infinity

# Asymptotic performance

Focus on the order of growth of functions, not on exact values

# Asymptotic performance

Order of growth captures how fast the function value increases when the input increases; in particular, for a function  $T(n)$

- When  $n$  doubles, does  $T(n)$  essentially
  - stay constant
  - increase by a constant
  - double as well
  - quadruple (x4)
  - increase eightfold (x8)
  - ... ?
- When  $n$  increases by 1, does  $T(n)$  essentially
  - double
  - increase  $n$ -fold (xn)
  - ... ?

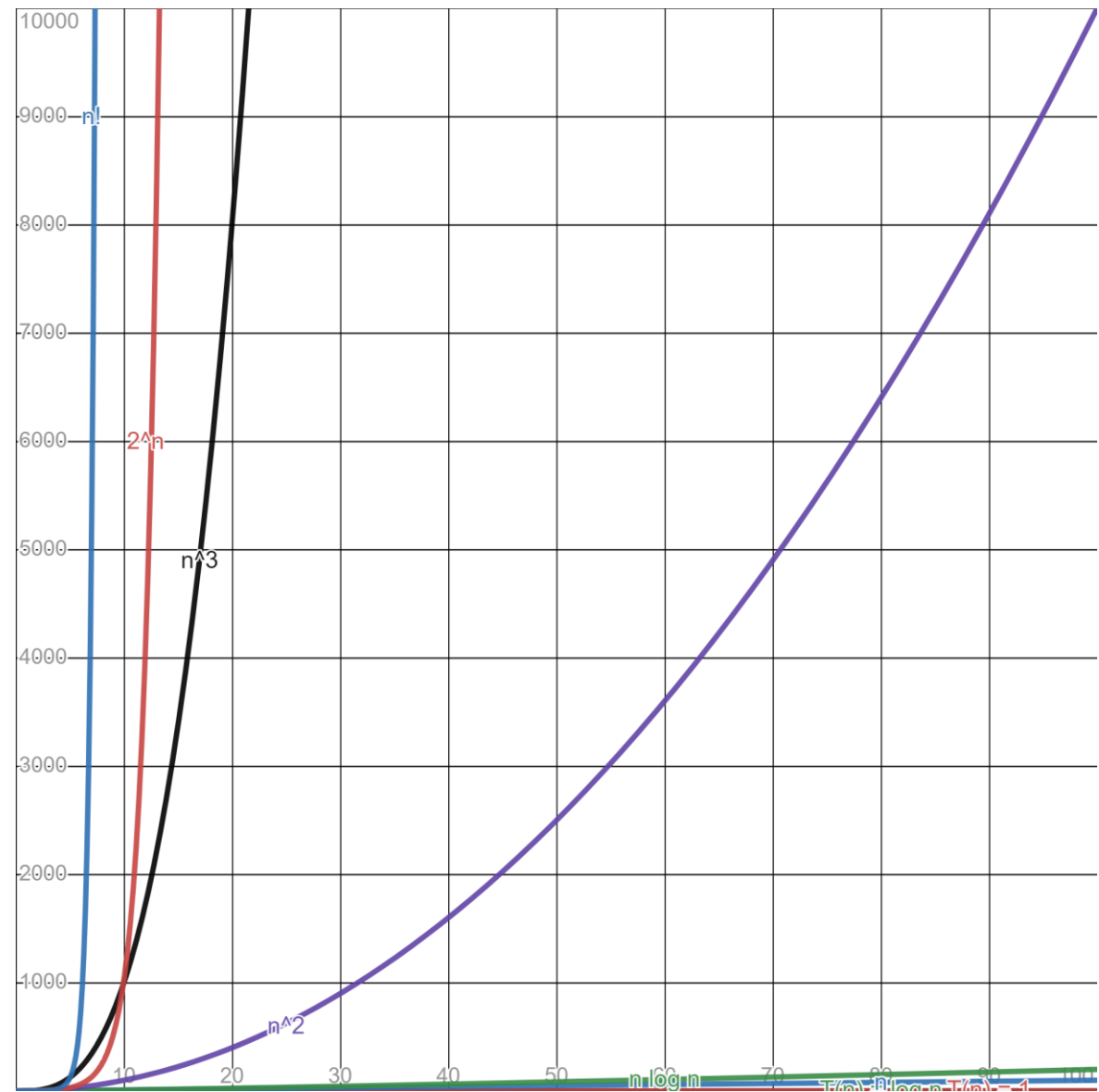
# Asymptotic performance

We don't care as much about the exact value of  $T(n)$



# Common orders of growth in Algorithm Analysis

- Constant - 1
- Logarithmic -  $\log n$
- Linear -  $n$
- Linearithmic -  $n \log n$
- Quadratic -  $n^2$
- Cubic -  $n^3$
- Exponential -  $2^n$
- Factorial -  $n!$



<https://www.desmos.com/calculator/tgud0bb1mz>

# Side note

What does  $\log_2 n$  really mean?

$\log_2 n$  is the number of times  $n$  can be divided by 2 before until we reach 1 or less

# Side note

Why do we use  $T(n)$  instead of  $f(x)$ ?

$T$  stands for Time, or running time

Using  $n$  signifies that the input is a positive integer

# Order of growth of runtime functions

- For runtime functions, is it better to have a function with a high order of growth or a low order of growth?
  - low order of growth means when input size increases, the value of the runtime won't increase by much
  - This means a fast algorithm
  - So, we want a low order of growth function for runtime

# Quick algorithm analysis

- How can we determine the order of growth of a function?
  - Ignore lower-order terms
  - Ignore multiplicative constants
- Example: polynomial functions
  - $T(n) = 5n^3 + 53n + 7$
  - Terms:  $5n^3, 53n, 7$
  - $5n^3$  is of order 3,  $53n$  is of order 1
  - what is the order of the term 7?

# Example

$$5n^3 + 53n + 7 \rightarrow n^3$$

- Warning: this is a simplification
  - It works for most of the algorithms in this course
- In some cases, it is difficult to determine the highest-order term
- In some cases, the constant factors play a significant role
  - e.g., small or medium-size input and large constant factors

# But ...

- Can we say  $5n^3 + 53n + 7 = n^3$ ?
- No! We need a mathematical notation
- $5n^3 + 53n + 7 = O(n^3)$ 
  - Read as Big O of  $n^3$
- It means the order of growth of  $5n^3 + 53n + 7$  is no more than ( $\leq$ ) the order of growth of  $n^3$

# Notations

- May also see:
  - $f(x) \in O(g(x))$  or
  - $f(x) = O(g(x))$
- used to mean that  $f(x)$  is  $O(g(x))$
- Same for the other functions



# Notations

$O(n)$

Inside a green oval:

- $\times 10n$
- $\times \log n$
- $\times 50n + 1$
- $\times 3\sqrt{n} + 10$
- $\times 7$

Outside the oval:

- $\times n^2$

Below the oval:

- $10n \in O(n)$
- $\log n \in O(n)$
- $n^2 \notin O(n)$

# The Big O Family

- $O$  roughly means  $\leq$ 
  - Big O
- $o$  roughly means  $<$ 
  - Little O or O-micron
- $\Omega$  roughly means  $\geq$ 
  - Big Omega
- $\omega$  roughly means  $>$ 
  - Little Omega
- $\Theta$  roughly means  $=$ 
  - Theta
- Relationships are between orders of growth, not between exact values!

# Asymptotic analysis approximations

- How can we determine the order of growth of a function?
  - Ignore lower-order terms
  - Ignore multiplicative constants
- Would it matter if the frequency of a statement is  $n$  or  $n+1$ ?
  - *No!*
- Would it matter if it is  $n$  or  $2n$ ?
  - *No!*
- Would it matter if it is  $2^n$  or  $2^{2n}$ ?
  - Yes! Why?

# A couple useful approximations under Asymptotic Analysis

$\sum$  arithmetic Series :

$$\begin{aligned} & 1 + 2 + 3 + 4 + \dots + n \\ &= \# \text{terms} \left( \frac{\text{first term} + \text{last term}}{2} \right) \\ &= \Theta(\# \text{terms} * \text{largest term}) \end{aligned}$$

$\sum$  geometric Series :

$$\begin{aligned} & 1, 2, 4, 8, 16, \dots \\ & 1, \frac{1}{2}, \frac{1}{4}, \frac{1}{8}, \dots \\ &= \Theta(\text{largest term}) \end{aligned}$$

# Let's go back to our ThreeSum Algorithm

- We know that

$$T(n) = \frac{t_3}{6}n^3 + \left(\frac{t_2}{2} - \frac{t_3}{2}\right)n^2 + \left(\frac{t_3}{3} - \frac{t_2}{2} + t_1\right)n + t_0 + t_4x$$

- What is the order of growth of  $T(n)$ ?
  - $T(n) = O(n^3)$

# Let's go back to our ThreeSum Algorithm

- Assuming that definition...
  - Is ThreeSum  $O(n^4)$ ?
  - What about  $O(n^5)$ ?
  - What about  $O(3^n)$ ??
- If all of these are true, why was  $O(n^3)$  what we jumped to to start?

# Another mathematical notation

## Tilde approximation ( $\sim$ )

- Same as Theta but keeps constant factors
- Two functions are Tilde of each other if they have the same order of growth and the same constant of the largest term

$$5n = \Theta(5,000,000,000 n)$$
$$\neq \sim 5,000,000,000 n$$

# A faster algorithm for 3-sum

- What if we sorted the array first?
  - For each pair of numbers, **binary search** for the third one that will make a sum of zero
    - e.g.,  $a[i] = 10$ ,  $a[j] = -7$ , binary search for  $-3$
    - Be careful not to use the same number twice
- What is the runtime?
  - Still have two for-loops, but we replace the third with a binary search
    - What if the input data isn't sorted?
  - What about the sorting time?

$$\underbrace{n^2}_{\text{all pairs}} \underbrace{\log n}_{\text{Binary Search}} + \cancel{n \log n}_{\text{Sorting}}$$



# The 3-sum problem: can we do better?

- There is an  $O(n^2)$  algorithm
  - Idea 1: use hashing to find the third number
  - Idea 2: for each number, find the missing pair of numbers in linear time
- There is also an  $O(n \log n)$  algorithm under special cases
- **Unsolved problem:** Is there a general  $O(n^{2-\varepsilon})$  algorithm for some  $\varepsilon > 0$ ?